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Accused Boston bomber to face 30 charges

BOSTON (AFP) - A US grand jury on Thursday indicted teenager Dzhokhar Tsamaev on 30 counts in connection with the April double bomb attack on the Boston marathon that killed three people and injured more than 260.

The counts include using a weapon of mass destruction and causing death by bombing a public place. Federal prosecutors said 17 of the charges carry a possible death penalty.

Tsamaev is to be formally arraigned in Boston district court on July 10, prosecutors said in a statement announcing the charges after weeks of questioning the man at his prison hospital bedside.

Tsamaev and his brother Tamerlan are accused of leaving two pressure cooker bombs at the marathon finish line on April 15 that sprayed nails and other metal debris into the huge crowds.

The ethnic Chechen Muslim brothers are also said to have killed a campus police officer at Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the giant manhunt that followed.

Tamerlan, 26, was killed in a gun battle with police four days after the attack. Hours later, Dzhokhar, 19, was found in a boat in a Boston suburb back garden and caught after another showdown.

The university student suffered a bullet wound to his throat and was said to be only communicating by writing answers on paper.

The indictment says that while hiding in the boat, the critically wounded Tsarnaev wrote on it: "The US government is killing innocent civilians."

"I can't stand to see such evil go unpunished," he added. "We Muslims are one body, you hurt one, you hurt us all."

Charges announced by prosecutors include use of a weapon of mass destruction resulting in death, bombing a public place resulting in death, malicious destruction of property resulting in death, using a firearm causing death and carjacking.

The indictment alleges that the brothers conspired to carry out the attack on the 117th Boston Marathon from February this year.

Video released by police at the time showed two young men walking calmly through the crowds to place backpacks which it later emerged contained pressure cooker bombs.

The bombs were detonated seconds apart, killing a boy, a Chinese student and a woman restaurant manager. At least 13 of the injured had limbs torn off.

The bombs "were designed to shred skin, shatter bone, and cause extreme pain and suffering, as well as death," said the indictment.

Commission Bon Boluntad (Committee of Goodwill) 2013 introduced



Under the auspices of Aruba's Chamber of Commerce, (KvK) the Commission Bon Boluntad 2013, a group of volunteers representing many aspects of the island community, was introduced to island media and the public at the KvK Headquarters on Wednesday morning, June 26.

The CBB is charged with overseeing Aruba's coming elections, with an eye to monitoring behavior and maintaining financial transparency regarding campaign contributions. It is organized every four years, and this year includes Police Commissioner Trudy Hassell, representing the Aruba Police Department.

President of this year's commission is Glenn Thode, former Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Aruba, prior to serving as the appointed Lt. Governor of Bonaire. He is now Rector of the University of Aruba. He joined the introductory session from Holland via SKYPE.

Other Members of the CBB installed on June 10 are Igmar Reyes, representing employers, Rudy Geerman and Hubert Dirksz of the Workers Union, FTA, Ava Thode, from the educational sector, Pastor Rey Nares providing a cleric's point of view

The Committee members

and Marylin de Kort from the Aruba Youth Parliament who concerned with the interests of first time voters.

Birgit Kreykenbohm will act as media liaison and the KvK will administrate and act as Secretariat of the CBB, through the services of its Director Leo Maduro and staffer Ivi Hernandez-Swaen.

Aruba's political parties are expected to respect the purpose of the commission and sign an agreement to submit to their scrutiny and abide by their findings. Some have already agreed to this, including the RED Party headed by Rudy Lampe.

As stated by CBB 2013 President Glenn Thode, the Commission is an acknowledgment by Aruban political hopefuls to maintain a well-run, honest campaign with nonpartisan supervision. This

requires complete cooperation of all political parties and candidates.

This year, Commissioner Hassell promised to control spontaneous political rallies and demonstrations that interfere with the flow of daily life and traffic on Aruba. Motorcades will be limited so as not to disrupt business and inconvenience the public. Permits for political demonstrations must be obtained and conducted in areas which will not create difficulty for emergency vehicles.

The CBB can be contact at telephone number 582-1120 ext 34/41 or via e-mail: secretariat@arubachamber.com. For more information on the CBB, its function and the laws enabling it, visit the KvK website: http://www.arubachamber.co

http://www.arubachamber.co m/downloads/others/comision-bon-boluntad





Hurricane season rains can result in increased cases of Dengue Fever

Help prevent this by being part of the clean up action!



Official hurricane season began on June 1. One of the main tasks of the Disaster Prevention Bureau is to be prepared. They have developed and are ready to implement emergency management in case of a calamity. Regarding the pub-

Official hurricane season lie health, the bureau has began on June 1. One of the done its utmost to prevent main tasks of the Disaster any health problem in case of Prevention Bureau is to be a hurricane.

The Bureau, however, in conjunction with other govemment departments and private enterprise, has decided to establish a clean up action in Aruban communities. This will remove any potential breeding place for mosquitoes around homes and yards, while eliminating objects that can be hazardous during a hurricane.

Such action will reduce the chance of contracting Dengue Fever.

Cooperating with the Bureau are Ecotec, Mourik, Johnson Enterprises, SERLIMAR and the Yellow Fever Mosquito Control (GKMB), the following communities will be cleaned on these dates with these buildings being the center of operations:

June 30 - Noord (Colegio Felipe B. Tromp)

July 28 - Savaneta (Ex AA center),

August 25 - Dakota (Centro di Bario Dakota)

September 22 - Sta. Cruz (Palace of Justice).

Construction activities at the Non-US Departures area of Aruba Airport

Temporarily relocation of airline ticket offices



Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) wishes to inform the general public that construction activities for the further development and enhancement of the walk way areas at the arrival terminal and within the Non-US plaza area have started. The activities will concentrate themselves mainly within the Non-US Plaza area.

Certain airline ticket offices have been temporarily relocated to the first floor next to the cashier's (PFC) office of AAA within the Non-US Plaza area. Passengers and airport users will be duly directed to the services and facilities located within the Non-US plaza during the construction activities and also to the departure gate areas.

AAA thanks you in advance for bearing with us during these construction activities and advice you to take good note and follow the signs when travelling to Non-US destinations in the days ahead.

The picture illustrates how the Non-US Plaza area will look when completed.



The directorate of the civil registration and census reminds the voting population of Aruba that in accordance with art. 3 jo.33 of our electoral law, voter registration will close on Wednesday, July 10, 2013. Only individuals who are registered at the Census Office on above mentioned date and are of Dutch Nationality and are 18 years or older on Election Day 2013, are allowed to cast their vote on Election Day Friday, September 27th, 2013.

The Census office also advises voters who have changed address since the last election should make certain to register under the new address. This is to insure their voting card arrives at the correct address, and they are sent to the proper polling booths for their district.

All those who do not have a valid ID, should schedule an appointment at the Census Office in time for a petition for a valid ID. It takes 2 weeks to get a passport and 3 weeks to process an ID card.

Those requiring a Dutch Passport should make an appointment by via the website <u>cita@censo.aw</u> or call at tel. 583-8181; do not delay. If needed, applicants can also register for their official ID Card during the passport appointment.





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William and Carmen Gelinas honored by ATA at their 40th anniversary party





Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Goodwill, at the Renaissance Convention Center during a fabulous Gala Party. The symbolic

honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. William and Mrs. Carmen Gelinas from Barre Massa-





chusetts USA. William and Carmen are Loyal members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites and have been visiting Aruba for 23 consecutive years, and they love Aruba for the safety, climate, beaches, restaurants and they

This year they came to celebrate their 40th anniversary together with their good friends Amarillis and Cedric Rodriguez on their 10th an-

The celebration took place at the Renaissance Conven-

where the Local Band Le Groove with Black Diamond Gario entertained them the whole night. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Amarillis and Mr. tion Center, many friends and Cedric Rodriquez and many family assisted at the party friends and family members.

Renaissance Resorts in Aruba and Curação top Canada's Monarc.Ca 'Readers Choice Awards'

Resorts chosen as best in their destinations for value, quality to price ratio, restaurants and couples' travel

ORANJESTAD/ Montreal. Quebec - Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino and Renaissance Curação Resort and Casino have been named the best hotels on their respective Caribbean islands Monarc.ca, the largest database of hotel reviews in Canada. The resorts were chosen for having the best value, quality to price ratio, restaurants and couples' travel experiences. Renaissance Curação was also recognized for its innovative Infinity Beach Club.

Located in the vibrant capital of Oranjestad, the AAA 4-Diamond Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino is in the midst renovating its



adult-exclusive Marina Hotel, with \$35,000 being invested in each of the hotel's 297 guest rooms to give them a contemporary residential feel, with design cues that

reference Aruba's natural palette. Family friendly accommodations are available in the spacious Ocean Suites.

Continued on pg 4

Fun Activities at Marriott Associate Appreciation Week







From June 16 – 21, the Aruba Marriott celebrated Associate Appreciation Week (AAW), an annual Marriott International celebration that recognizes the hard work and dedication of over 146,000 associates worldwide.

The celebrations kicked off Friday afternoon with an outdoor BBQ. On Monday associates participated with an on-site scavenger hunt and brain gymnastics. On Tuesday morning, many associates joined a special hike tour at the National Arikok Park while others got sportive and played paintball in the afternoon. Over one hundred fifty associates gathered Wednesday morning in the Casino for a game of Bingo. Several associates were lucky and won cash prices. At night

teams geared up for the car rally, where associates drive around the island and receive crazy fun assignments to win. Thursday morning associates geared up for exercising with early Zumba and sports events at the beach. The afternoon was family time for associates and their little ones. A special treat was the movie night with the new release of Monsters Inc University at Paseo Herencia cinemas. The Associate Appreciation Week ended on Friday with a morning beach walk, balloon classes and a am-packed bowling night at Eagle bowling.

Associate Appreciation Week 2013 was another great celebration week for the Marnott's associates. The Human Resource department did an excellent job organizing the week. For more photos of the Aruba Marriott Appreciation Week, visit the official Facebook fan page <u>www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott</u>.



Renaissance Resorts in Aruba and Curação top Canada's Monarc.Ca 'Readers Choice Awards' Continued from pg 3

The resort also offers a private island experience on Renaissance Island, a 40-acre private island accessible by boat and open exclusively to resort guests, features a family-friendly cove at Iguana Beach and an adult-exclusive escape at Flamingo Beach.

Located in the heart of historic Willemstad, Renaissance Curação Resort & Casino offers guests 237 rooms designed with a combination of contemporary Caribbean flavor and traditional European sophistication. The resort, which opened in 2009, is home to the Infinity Beach Club which features an elevated beach experience complete with natural ocean water, white sand, palm trees and sweeping ocean views. Adjacent to the resort is the Rif Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Both resorts offer guests plenty of entertainment through Renaissance's interactive RLive Live program, upscale shopping at Renaissance Mall and Marketplace in Aruba and Renaissance Mall in Curação, expansive casinos and multi-screen cinemas.

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To ensure the integrity of information published on Monarc ca, travelers receive a message including their recent trip information upon return. For more information or reservations, visit www.RenaissanceAruba.com or

www.RenaissanceCuração.com.

Aruba's first sleep away camp announced for this summer: "Camp Blast"



Camp Organizers and Sharmaine Tromp of Hard Rock

The owners of Rancho Diamari Stables have refurbished a lovely hacienda on Aruba's north coast, very close to Diamari Beach, which they have decided to deploy as a summer camp over the month of July. Organizers of the camp, Isabel Silva-Finol and Head Guide/Counselor Javier Chavez joined Hard Rock Marketing Manager Sharmaine Tromp and Camp Promoter Farrah Boekhoudt at the Hard Rock Cafe in Palm Beach to announce that parents now have an exciting alternative for their children this year.

Camp Blast will conduct three weeks of organized activities where each camper will be treated like a "VIP" kid. The camp is for children ages five to through twelve. They will accept only 50-60 campers and parents can inscribe their youngsters for one week or all three, as they choose. All meals, snacks, refreshments, tours and activities are included in the fee.

Camp Blast is unique in that the children will have the unusual experience of an authentic sleep-away camp, unlike the day camps that are prevalent on Aruba. The facility is recently enlarged and refurbished, with a beautiful pool deck and courts for volleyball, table tennis and there will be regular excursions on horseback. It is also ideally located for nature hikes through Arikok National Park. Organizers a empha-

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sized they will address a healthy mind in a healthy body, with reading and craft sessions to entertain the youngsters and stimulate development in all areas, including dancing and singing. Regularly schedule bus tours will include lunch stops and events at restaurants such as Hard Rock Cafe, Scala and Pizza Hut. Organizers assured that utmost care will be taken with the supervision and safety of the campers.

The first week of Camp Blast will begin on Monday, July 15, each new session will commence the Monday of the following week. The last week of camp will be July 29 through August 5. Parents wishing more information or to sign up their children can call 6900573 or 5681801 or e-mail: summercamp2013@outlook.com



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First Oncology Department Open House was a resounding success



The first Open House organized by the Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Hospital Oncology Department was deemed a huge success by department staff. Many made good use of this opportunity to get acquainted with the department, the friendly staff and all the services they perform. The Open House took place on Friday, June 21, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the beautiful new building where Dr. Casper Laclé has his offices.

Internist, oncologist and

hematologist Dr.
Roel Jonkhoff expressed he is very happy with the positive outcome of the Open House. "I find my job at the hospital is very satisfying. This Open House gave everyone the

opportunity to see what really happens behind the curtains. Our Oncology Department can be compared to those in the U.S.A. and the Netherlands; we work with the same standards and demands."

The building which houses the Oncology Department is large,

well-fitted and more than adequate for the consult hours practiced there. It has all the



technology for chemo therapy and oncology treatment. In case a cancer patient, due to distinctly individual circumstances, cannot receive treatment on Aruba, the department can opt to send the patient to either Colombia or the Netherlands. In some exceptional cases, they may travel to the U.S.

The Oncology Depart-

The Oncology Department is a vital necessity for Aruba, especially with an increased population and a corresponding incidence of cancer related cases.



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US warns of 'grave' impact if Ecuador takes in Snowden

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States on Thursday warned Ecuador it would create "grave difficulties" in bilateral ties if Quito grants asylum to fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden.

But a US official also denied that a bilateral trade pact was being used as "blackmail" in the case, insisting that Washington wanted to maintain a good economic relationship with Quito.

"What would not be a good thing is them granting Mr Snowden asylum. That would have grave difficulties for our bilateral relationship," acting deputy State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell said.

"If they take that step, that would have very negative repercussions."

Ecuador dropped out of a trade pact with the United States on Thursday claiming it had become an instrument of "blackmail" as Quito considers Snowden's asylum request.

But Ventrell said the preferential trade program, which covers key Ecuadoran exports such as fresh-cut roses, fruits, vegetables and tuna, was granted by Congress and Quito could not withdraw unilaterally.

Friend testifies over shooting victim's phone call

MIAMI (AFP) - A key witness in the Trayvon Martin murder trial was grilled in court Thursday about her cell phone call with the teen shooting victim minutes before he was killed by a volunteer neighborhood watchman.

Rachel Jeantel, 19, a close friend of Martin's who said she was on the phone with him during his final minutes alive, testified that the unarmed teen said he was being pursued and appeared to have been accosted during the fatal encounter on a rainy night in February of last year.

According to Jeantel, Martin told her during their phone call that "he was being followed by a creepy ass cracker" -- a pejorative term employed by some African-Americans to refer to whites.

In hours of testimony that spanned over two days, Jean-tel recounted that she was chatting on the phone with Martin as he walked through the gated community, when he became aware that he was being followed.

She said she heard an angry exchange of words, including Martin demanding of the man "why you following me for?"

"A hard-breathing man," she said, responded "what are you doing around here?"

Jeantel testified that there were "noises" and that she heard the teen yell "get off, get off. The phone call then cut off."

During cross-examination, Zimmerman's defense attorney Don West noted minor inconsistencies in the account of the story Jeantel told on the witness stand and what she said in the days immediately following the shooting.

Martin, 17, was visiting a family friend in the neighborhood and was coming back from a convenience store just before his run-in with Zimmerman.

The son of an American father and a Peruvian mother, Zimmerman has denied any racial motive in the killing, saying he shot Martin only because he feared his life was in danger.

A jury of six women is hearing the second degree murder trial of Zimmerman, a case that inflamed racial tensions in the United States.

Florida investigators initially opted not to press charges in the case, setting off a furor, with Martin's supporters alleging racism and pointing to the fact that the teenager was carrying no weapon at the time of his death and had no criminal record.

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US Senate passes comprehensive immigration reform

WASHINGTON (AFP) - After months of wrangling, the US Senate on Thursday overwhelmingly passed its comprehensive immigration reform bill that aims to put 11 million undocumented people on a path to citizenship.

Chants of "Yes we did!" erupted from the public galleries after senators voted 68-32 to approve the landmark legislation, which bolsters border security, revamps legal immigration and requires a 13-year wait before those without papers can apply for citizenship.

President Barack Obama hailed the vote, saying "Today, with a strong bipartisan vote, the United States Senate delivered for the American people, bringing us a critical step closer to fixing our broken immigration system once and for all."

Fourteen Republicans joined a unanimous Democratic side in what Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid deemed a historic vote, as he took the rare move of calling on members to cast votes from their Senate desks, as Vice President Joe Biden presided over the chamber.

The measure now faces a rocky road in the Republicanled House of Representatives, but Schumer and Republican Gang of 8 Senator John McCain made a direct appeal to their colleagues on the other side of the US Capitol: work with us to achieve the most important immigration reform in a quarter century.

"To our friends in the House, we ask for your consideration, and we stand ready to sit down and negotiate with you," McCain said.

"We may have different views on different aspects of this issue but we should all of us here have the same goal, and that is to take 11 million people out of the shadows, secure our borders, and make sure this is a nation of opportunity and freedom."



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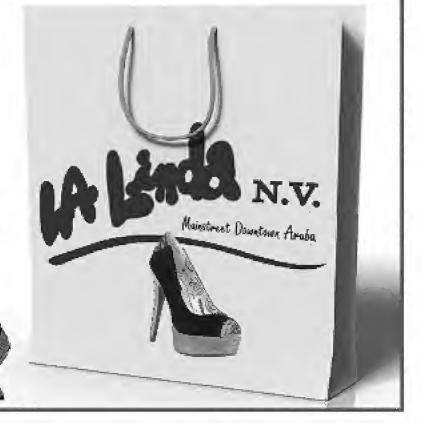
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International News

Missoni heir's plane found in Venezuela: official

CARACAS (AFP) - A small plane that disappeared in January off the coast of Venezuela with six people aboard, including the scion of Italy's Missoni fashion family, has been found, officials said Thursday.

Foreign Minister Elias Jaua said authorities would now search the wreckage for the bodies of the two pilots and four passengers who had left Los Roques is lands on January 4 en route to Caracas.

Jana said the Italian government provided technology to search for the missing plane.

The plane was carrying a pilot, a co-pilot and four passengers, including 58-year-old Vittorio Missoni -- the son of

the eponymous fashion label's founder Ottavio Missoni -- his wife Maurizia Castiglioni and another Italian couple when it vanished.

Vittorio Missoni was the fashion house's marketing di-

Ottavio Missoni, a knitwear innovator whose distinctive colorful zigzag designs became a global fashion empire, died on May 9 in his home and company headquarters in the northern Italian town of Sumirago at the age of 92.

Italian media quoted people close to the patriarch as saying that he had not been himself since his son's disappearance, and had refused to talk about it.

Brazil's Rousseff pushes plebiscite amid new protests

BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff met Thursday with her allies and the opposition to work out details of a plebiscite on political reform as street protests flared anew, albeit on a smaller scale.

After talks with Justice Minister Eduardo Cardozo, Rousseff began receiving members of her leftist ruling coalition. She was due also to meet with top lawmakers later in the day.

The series of meetings came as thousands of demonstrators massed outside Ceara State University in the northeastern city of Fortaleza, where Spain were to face Italy in a Confederations Cup semi-final.

"Get ready, it's time to change the history of our country," read one banner.

The mass demonstrations, which began more than two weeks ago against a background of anemic economic growth and rising inflation, coincide with the Confederations Cup -- a dry run for the 2014 World Cup, which Brazil will host for the first time since 1950.

Protesters are clamoring for better public services and tougher penalties against corrupt politicians. They are also angry about the \$15 billion Brasilia spent to host the two high-profile football tournaments

Feeling the heat from the streets, Congress has been rushing through a series of bills that had been kept on hold for years.

The Senate has backed tougher penalties on corruption. It also scrapped a proposed constitutional amendment that sought to curb the investigative powers of independent public prosecutors.

The Supreme Court meanwhile ordered the detention of lawmaker Natan Donadon, who was sentenced to 13 years in jail in 2010 for embezzlement -- the first such move in 25 years.

In other concessions to the protesters, the House of Deputies backed a bill that would allocate 75 percent of oil royalties to education and 25 percent to health.

The bill now goes to the Senate, but some of the articles could face a presidential veto as Rousseff said she wanted 100 percent of the revenues to go to education.

The government also announced plans to create 35,000 jobs in the public health sector, open to Brazilian doctors, but also foreigners if necessary. Some 12,000 medical experts are also to be trained in priority

sectors

The plebiscite proposed by Rousseff would be non-binding and allow for debate of several issues, including election campaign finance and the voting system.

But opposition parties have made it clear they think it is up to Congress to craft a political reform which the electorate can then approve or reject in a referendum.

Leaders of the Senate and the House of Deputies -- both members of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, which is part of the ruling coalition -- have endorsed the idea of a plebiscite, and the government hopes to submit a concrete proposal to Congress next Tuesday.

Indian reporter in flood video scandal sacked: channel

NEW DELHI (AFP) - An Indian television journalist who reported on deadly floods in the north of the country while perched on a survivor's shoulders has been sacked, the head of the channel told AFP.

"What he did was very inhuman. You cannot ride on someone's back for a story. We terminated him on Tuesday," said Nishant Chaturvedi, channel head at News Express

Narayan Pargaien, reporting on the flash floods and landslides in Uttarakhand state, triggered outrage after a video clip went viral on the Internet showing him speaking into the camera while sitting on the shoulders of a local villager.

The reporter claimed that the survivor, who can be seen wobbling under the strain while standing in ankle-high water, had hoisted him onto his shoulders as a sign of respect.

The man "wanted to show me some respect, as it was the first time someone of my level had visited his house," Pargaien said in an interview to Indian media website newslaundry.com on Tuesday.

Some 1,000 people have died in flash floods and land-slides caused by heavy down-pours in India's Uttarakhand state, known as the "Land of the Gods" for its revered Hindu shrines.

Helicopters and soldiers have evacuated tens of thousands of people, but several thousand pilgrims and tourists remain stranded throughout the state since early rains struck on June 15.

The channel is planning to post the controversial video on its own website to stress that it did not endorse the reporter's conduct.



CONAKRY (AFP) - A Guinean policeman pours gasoline on June 26, 2013 on 4 tons of marijuana and various other drugs, to be burnt in Conakry during celebrations marking the international Day Against Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking.



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Health & Living

Italy bans sale of electronic cigarettes to minors

ROME (AFP) - Italy banned the sale of electronic digarettes containing nicotine to minors on Thursday and forbid their use in schools, amid criticism from a consumer watchdog that the move did not go far enough. Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin "bans the sale of electronic cigarettes with nicotine to minors under the age of 18," her ministry said in a statement.

"We don't want to say that electronic cigarettes are more dangerous than normal cigarettes but they should not be used as harmless objects," Lorenzin told Rai television.

"People need to be informed about what they use... water and aroma (capsules) are one thing, but nicotine can create dependencies," she added.

Italian consumer association Codacons criticised the new law as "utterly insufficient".

"E-cigarettes should be banned in all public places, just like normal cigarettes. It's not clear why the ministry believes they are dangerous, and therefore should be banned in schools, but not in other places open to the public," Codacons president Carlo Rienzi said.





NEW DELHI (AFP): Indian doctors prepare 1-year old girl Roona Begum, suffering from hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid inside the skull that leads to swelling, for surgery at a hospital in Gurgaon on the outskirts of New Delhi on June 27, 2013. Indian doctors saidyesterday they successfully carried out comprehensive reconstructive surgery on the skull of a baby suffering from a rare disorder that caused her head to nearly double in size. The four-hour-long surgery on the skull of one-year-old Roona Begum was carried out at a hospital near New Delhi where last month surgeons also drained fluid from the youngster's head in a life-saving operation.



TOKYO - A mouse has been cloned from a single drop of blood, Japanese scientists have reported. Blood cells from a donor mouse's tail were collected and used to make the cloned female mouse, which went on to reproduce and live a regular lifespan. The findings of the study, published in the journal Biology of Reproduction, state the researchers 'demonstrated for the first time that mice could be cloned using the nuclei of peripheral blood cells'. Furthermore, the cells 'could be used for cloning immediately after collection and no donor animals need to be euthanised'.



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China, S. Korea agree to push N.Korea denuclearisation

BEIJING (AFP) - China and South Korea will keep pushing to end North Korea's nuclear programme, their leaders declared at a high-profile summit between Pyongyang's closest ally and its key rival.

"We have agreed that under any circumstances, North Korea's nuclear (weapons) are unacceptable and confirmed that the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula is of common interest for the two countries," South Korean President Park Geun-Hye told reporters as she sat beside Chinese President Xi Jinping.

China has previously supported North Korea's denuclearisation and is the chair of a multinational forum -- the six-party talks -- aimed at achieving it, but has also tended to prioritise regional stability, for decades acting as the sole major ally and economic lifeline to the unpredictable North.

South Korea, which does

not have nuclear weapons, and ally the United States, have made it clear they will never accept the idea of North Korea as a nuclear state, and insist Pyongyang must show a tangible commitment to abandoning its nuclear weapons if it wants substantive talks.

Both have pressured China to use more of its leverage to rein in Pyongyang.

Xi, for his part, described the situation on the divided peninsula as "currently changing in a positive direction", apparently referring to recent offers by Pyongyang to pursue dialogue, including hinting at a return to long-stalled six-nation nuclear talks aimed at shuttering its nuclear programme.

The forum -- which groups North Korea, China, South Korea, Japan, Russia and the United States -- is aimed at achieving Pyongyang's abandonment of its nuclear weapons programme in return for aid and security

guarantees.

The North appears in recent months to have moderated its stance after a series of bellicose statements and gestures against the South and the US early this year, including threats of nuclear war.

In February the North carried out its third underground nuclear test in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions, sending tensions soaring and raising fears of possible conflict.

While a planned meeting with South Korea earlier this month fell through, Pyongyang has offered direct talks with Washington, and has sent two envoys to Beijing since late May to express a willingness for dialogue.

China's relationship with North Korea -- famously described by Mao Zedong as being as close as "lips and teeth" -- was forged in the 1950-53 Korean War which China entered to prevent the North's total defeat.

Microsoft wants to disclose US government data queries

came a day after a similar peti-

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Microsoft has joined Google in a legal push for permission to disclose more information about secret government requests for data, according to a US court filing made public.

Microsoft's legal request with the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISA) on June 19th

joined Google in tion by Google.

The US technology titans argue that they want to reassure people who use their products and services in the aftermath of revelations that the National Se-

curity Agency had accessed vast amounts of data in a surveillance program under the supervision of the special court, which oper-

ates in secret.

Microsoft asked the court to grant it permission to disclose aggregate data about government requests that are deemed secret, noting that deputy counsel general John Frank has 'top secret' clearance with the Department of Defense.

Google has asked the court for permission to reveal numbers of government requests for data from the Internet giant.

Google said it already publishes in its "transparency report" data on requests from law enforcement and so-called National Security Letters from the FBI.

FISA refers to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which authorized the secret court.

Google said it was seeking a court ruling to allow it to publish "limited, aggregate statistics" on orders for the company to hand over data.

Both Google and Microsoft lawyers argued that the companies have a right under the First Amendment of the US Constitution to speak up in their own defense regarding a spying program being discussed by political officials.





PICKLES









MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBES









CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

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- 4. Not present (abbr.)
- Chaney of films
- Produced eggs
- 12. Use the oven
- 14. ___ up to (admit)
- 16. Lingerie item
- 18. The Dynamic

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20. Ike's theater

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- 32. Fishing rod
- 33. "Rubbish!"
- 34. Detain
- 36. Actor Majors
- 37. Recognized 39. Mrs. David
- Copperfield
- 40. Hosp.
- employees 41. Attempt
- 15. Roman fashion 43. Chronicle 45. High's

48. Juvenile

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- opposite
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- 52. ___ Cruz 56. Cagers' org.
- 57. Tennis great Arthur ____
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- 60. "___ So Fine"
- 61. Alkaline material

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- 3. False hair
- 4. Approached aggressively
- 5. Feathered scarf
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- 11. Baby word
- 13. ___ and kin
- 17. Dial or Ivory
- 19. Preowned, as a car
- 21. Winter coat
- 22. Small appliances
- 23. Quotes
- 24. Synthetic fiber
- 26. ___ Meir
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- attention
- 28. Performer Della
- 31. What swimmers
- often get 35. Football unit
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- Street
- 42. "Star Wars" creature
- 44. Invite request
- **46.** Hope
- 48. News addict's network
- 49. "Entourage" channel (abbr.)
- 50. Author
- Fleming 51. "Murder, ___
- Wrote"
- 53. Building wing 54. Musician Clark
- 55. "Yes" vote

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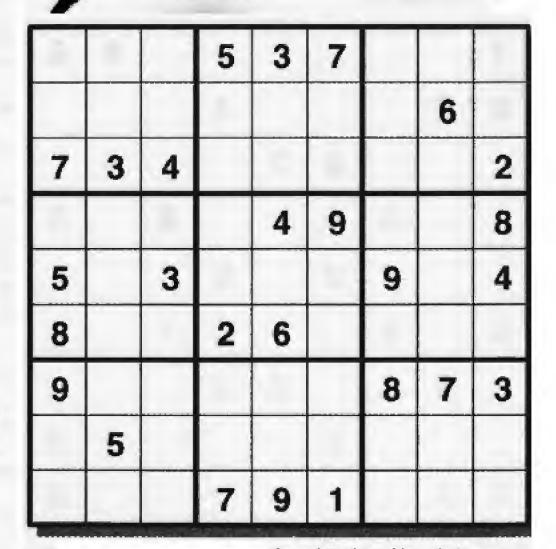
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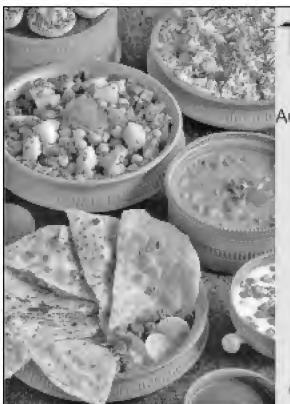
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Sudoku



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Portugal hit by general strike against austerity

LISBON (AFP) - Public transport crawled to a standstill and flights were grounded in Portugal Thursday as workers staged their fourth general strike in two years against austerity measures adopted in return for a massive international bailout.

"This is an exceptional strike in terms of worker participation," said Armenio Carlos, the head of the country's biggest union, the Communist-led General Confederation of Portuguese Workers.

Portugal's second-largest union, the General Union of Workers, which had worked with the government on a reform of the labour code, seconded the strike call, a sign of dwindling patience with spending cuts and tax increases.

Its secretary general Carlos Silva said "the goals of the strike have been reached", claiming that five million people followed the stoppage, or half of the active population.

The last time the two unions banded together in a general strike was in November 2011, just five months after Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho's centre-right coalition took office.

The unions are angered over a fresh package of austerity measures unveiled in May that include raising the weekly work

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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hours of state employees from 35 to 40 and slashing 30,000 out of 700,000 jobs in the bureaucracy.

The government says the measures will reduce public spending by 4.7 billion euros (\$6.1 billion) by 2015.

Thousands of people marched through the historic centre of Lisbon to parliament, whose broad marble staircase was protected by a police cordon.

Banners read: "Enough!" or "Government Out!"

Demonstrations were held in several other cities including Oporto, Portugal's second city, and Faro in the south.

Portugal is struggling to apply radical budget and economic reforms in exchange for bailout loans of 78 billion euros (\$102 billion) agreed by the so-called troika -- the European Union, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund -- in May 2011.

But as in Greece and Ireland, other eurozone countries that needed a financial lifeline, falling living standards have stoked outrage at the austerity measures.

Sweden

Denmark

Norway

FINANCE

Defiant Ecuador drops US trade deal over Snowden case

QUITO (AFP) - A defiant Ecuador dropped out of a trade pact with the United States on Thursday, claiming it had become an instrument of "blackmail" as Quito considers asylum for fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden.

The leftist government also offered the United States \$23 million in "economic aid" for "human rights training" to prevent attacks on people's privacy, torture and extrajudicial executions.

"Ecuador unilaterally and irrevocably renounces these preferential customs tariff rights," Communications Minister Fernando Alvarado said, reading a government statement. "Ecuador does not accept pressure or threats from anyone, and does not trade on principles or make them contingent on commercial interests, even if those interests are important," he said.

The government of leftist President Rafael Correa said that while it had received the preferential rights in exchange for its cooperation in the war on drugs, they had become a "new instrument of blackmail."

The preferential trade program, which covers key Ecuadoran exports such as fresh-cut roses, fruits, vegetables and tuna, was set to expire on July 31 unless the US Congress renewed it.

The arrangement, which

dates back to the early 1990s, originally benefited four Andean nations, and Ecuador was the last country still participating in it. But analysts have warned that Washington may refuse to renew it if Quito grants asylum to Snowden.

The United States is Ecuador's main trade partner, buying 40 percent of the Andean nation's exports, or the equivalent of \$9 billion per year.

The 30-year-old Snowden, a former National Security Agency contractor who embarrassed the government of US President Barack Obama by revealing details of vast Internet and phone surveillance programs, has requested asylum from Ecuador.

US stocks rally on economic data, Fed comments

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks Thursday closed solidly higher for a third straight day following positive economic data and comments from a top Federal Reserve official that the Fed would not hastily end its stimulus program.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 114.35 (0.77 percent) to 15,024.49, closing above 15,000 for the first time since June 19.

The broad-based S&P 500 added 9.94 points (0.62 percent) to 1,613.20, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index increased 25.64 (0.76 percent) to 3,401.86.

The gains followed a drop in jobless claims and a big increase in pending home sales, fresh evidence that economic growth remains steady.



Suggesting that markets had over-reacted to Fed policy statements last week, William Dudley, chief of the Fed's New York branch, emphasized that it would not end its bond-buying stimulus program if the economy does not live up to current forecasts.

Most of the companies in the Dow ended higher, including Boeing (up 2.4 percent) and UnitedHealth Group (up 2.0 percent).

Bank of America added 2.0 percent, JPMorgan Chase 1.2 percent, and Wells Fargo 1.3 percent.

Dish Network rose 3.1 percent after it withdrew its bid to acquire Clearwire, clearing the path for Sprint's full takeover of Clearwire. Clearwire fell 2.1 percent, while Sprint slipped 0.1 percent.

Con Agra Foods rose 5.1 percent after reporting earnings of 60 cents per share, one cent above expectations. The company expects higher profits in 2014 and at least 10 percent per-year profit growth in fiscal 2015-2017.

Research in Motion fell 2.9 percent one day ahead of a company earnings report that is expected to reveal how the company's much-advertised smartphone is performing.

Bed Bath & Beyond dipped 0.2 percent after reporting earnings of 93 cents per share, 21 cents less than expected.

Payroll processor Paychex fell 3.7 percent after missing earnings estimates by 11 cents per share and posting revenues of \$585.3 million, below the \$610.8 million expected.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year US Treasury fell to 2.48 percent from 2.54 percent late Wednesday, while the 30-year declined to 3.55 percent from 3.57 percent. Bond prices move inversely to yields.



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'Sopranos' fans mourn Gandolfini at funeral



NEW YORK (AFP) - Family, friends and fans united in grief Thursday in an emotional sendoff for James Gandolfini, star of the hit TV series "The Sopranos."

Gandolfini, a three-time Emmy winner for his portrayal of emotionally vulnerable New Jersey mobster Tony Soprano, died June 19 after a heart attack in a hotel in Rome, where he was traveling with his 13-year-old son. He was 51.

Mourners converged on the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, an Episcopal church that is among the world's biggest, well before the mid-morning start of Gandolfini's funeral.

Some 1,500 people filled the pews, including Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey, the state across the Hudson River from New York City where Gandolfini was born and "The Sopranos" was set.

Present as well for the two-

hour funeral were cast members of the HBO series, whose creator David Chase delivered a eulogy in the form of a letter to his fellow American of Italian heritage.



"We both loved family, work, people, food, alcohol, talking," said Chase, who remembers his friend as "a sad boy, loving and confused... That's why I think you were such a great actor, because of that boy inside."

Others in attendance included actor Alec Baldwin, like Gandolfini a veteran of Broadway theater, and Edie Falco, who played Tony Soprano's wife Carmela in the series that ran from 1999 to 2007.

Gandolfini's second wife • Deborah Lin Gandolfini spoke • of a loving husband and attentive father to their nine-monthold daughter Liliana who was • always trying to help some • one."

Emotions were no less strong outside the cathedral.

"We've been up since 4:30 this morning," said Stephanie Solana, a fan who traveled to the Upper West Side from The Bronx with her two grand-daughters to pay her respects.

On Wednesday, family and close friends gathered away from prying cameras for an invitation-only private viewing at a funeral home in Park Ridge, New Jersey, near where the actor grew up.

Gandolfini had a long film and stage career before lending his heavy stature and big grin to play a depressed mafioso in "The Sopranos," the celebrated series that ran from 1999 to 2007 in the United States.

The son of an Italian bricklayer was in Italy for the Taomina Film Fest in Sicily where he was to have received an award and participate in a roundtable discussion last weekend.

Winfrey heads Forbes celeb 'power' list



NEW YORK (AFP) - Television talk show queen Oprah Winfrey was named the most powerful celebrity in the world on Wednesday as Forbes comreleased its annual list of the top movers and shakers in the entertainment industry.

Winfrey, 59, who was ranked in the top spot despite her signature daytime television show Oprah ending its 25-year run in 2011, headed a 100-strong list which featured six women in the top 10.

Forbes.com uses a complex methodology to come up with its list, taking into account various factors including earnings, the number of mentions each celebrity gets in print and television and their Internet presence before deciding the rankings.

The website also gives each celebrity a marketability score out of 100 developed by a Cal-

i formia-based market research form.

Winfrey made an estimated \$77 million between June 2012 and June 2013, significantly less than other rivals on the list but came out on top after scoring well in areas such as press mentions and social networking power, Forbes.com said.

In second place was eccentric pop star Lady Gaga, who earned \$80 million in the same period, while Hollywood titan Steven Spielberg was third. The legendary director and producer earned a cool \$100 million in the past year.

The next three spots were occupied by women from the music world, with Beyonce Knowles in fourth (\$53 million), Madonna in fifth (\$125 million) and Taylor Swift (\$55 million).

Rock band Bon Jovi took seventh with \$79 million while Swiss tennis ace Roger Federer was the only athlete to make the list as he came in eighth.

Federer, sensationally dumped out of Wimbledon in the second round on Wednesday, pocketed \$71 million.

Rounding out the top 10 were singer Justin Bieber (\$58 million) and television comedienne Ellen DeGeneres (\$56 million).

The list can be found at www.forbes.com/celebrities.

5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course.

the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8 a.m., patrons can now order 2

eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.99, (\$5.48 wit bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, with free refills on fresh coffee. A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast, home fries, with complimentary, unlimited coffee for only \$9.99! Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English waywith vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gournnet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open from Sam to 10pm-ish Sunday - Thursday. For those late night diners, 5 Burgers is open until 3AM-ish on Friday & Saturdays! Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches! Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904 However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their mvestment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Arubais the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Artiba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www. goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

Aruba's Freestyle Windsurfer Steven Max battles for gold in France and wins!



MARSEILLE - This years IFCA Freestyle Youth World championship was once again held in France during the SOSH Freestyle Cup 2013, and once again the competitors came from far and all over the globe, including, Russia, Israel, Italy, Belgium and Aruba to compete for the most wanted title of Youth world-champion.

Day one started off with a promising but chilly breeze and competitors took to the water with great enthusiasm, which quickly turned in to disappointment as the wind died almost completely within the first heat and the competition had to be postponed.

Conditions did not get better on day two, leaving the frustrated sailors with lot's of games and other windless water activities to do on a overall beautiful fun filled and sunny day, but sadly no windsurfing could be done, due to lack of wind.

Day 3 brought no difference and tensions started to get higher, as these athlete's were getting restless and eager to show off their moves.

On Friday, day 3 the wind still did not return and the day

was spend much like the days before, on land playing games and waiting for the wind to pick up.

All hopes were up and so was the wind the morning of day four as the Freestylers took to the water once again.

During the first double elimination Steven Max (15) climbed his way up to the top 4 position eliminating the 16 year old Italian Riccardo Marca and France's Sam Esteve (15) to face off Israel 's champion Johnny
Yagen, who managed
to conquer the heat
due to light winds
which were in his advantage, while Steven
could not pull out his

big moves and he took second place.

During the rest of he day they were able to complete a double elimination, in which Steven had to win several heats to get back in the finals to face off Johnny again, winning

again, winning this heat by landing amazing and high moves, one of them a

"Punch", in the face of the Jury.

Alas in Steven's second attempt to conquer first place, during a very tight race, it was Johnny who went home with first place, taking advantage of the light wind conditions once again, which hampered Steven to do any power moves and he lost the first place position. Leaving Steven frustrated, but the morning of day 5, got all competitors in a good mood, as they continued their battle under great conditions. Steven flew through the first heats, eliminating each and everyone, including yesterdays



very determined to do better on the next and final day of competition, praying for more wind.

An early and windy start in

o do better champion in the final heat, and day of even though by then the wind had died considerably.

After a quick lunch off they

After a quick lunch off they went again, everyone ready to see who was going to be the overall winner of the final day's double elimination.

Again Johnny Yagen managed to go all the way to the finals to meet up with the champion of the day Steven Max, he needed to win twice to beat Steven, when just before the start of the final heat, desaster struck and Johnny was injured. He was taken care of by the medics on site, but luckily recovered quick enough to keep competing and after the "Makani-fin" Supersession, the battle continued.

Landing huge aerial moves and making good use of the 2 meter swell, Steven Max won the "Supersession" and the final against Johnny right after that, as well.

The decision was clear, the competition fierce and very close, but Steven Max scored just above Johnny, making him this years Junior World Champion under 18, a great achievement once again for this youngster from Aruba.

Final results overall: 4th place Sam Esteve (France), 3rd place Kostya Smirnoff (Russia), 2nd Place Johnny Yagen (Israel), 1st Place Steven Max (Aruba).

Now on his way back home, Steven is looking forward to the Aruba Hi-Winds from 2nd-8th of August.

Photo's by: JP Cecchini, Kathleen Govaerts and Lucy Zuiderwijk







Tennis: Djokovic avoids giantkilling at Wimbledon

LONDON (AFP) - Novak Djokovic avoided becoming the latest star to crash out of Wimbledon as the world number one recovered from a slow start to defeat American qualifier Bobby Reynolds 7-6 (7/2), 6-3, 6-1 in the second round on Thursday.

While several of Djokovic's title rivals have fallen foul of the shock defeats and injury withdrawals that have rocked Wimbledon over the last four days, the 26-year-old has progressed serenely to the last 32 and is yet to drop a set.

Both Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal suffered stunning losses at the hands of unheralded opponents in the

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Rosalie Klein Reporter/Photographer

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other half of the draw, leaving Djokovic as the only former Wimbledon champion left.

And a defeat for Djokovic in his first meeting with Reynolds, the world number 156, would have been just as shocking.

But, although the Serb never hit peak form, he did enough to see off his obdurate opponent with 41 winners and 12 aces in one hour and 56 minutes

Djokovic will play French 28th seed Jeremy Chardy or German qualifier Jan-Lennard Struff for a place in the last 16.

"It's a bit strange that so many top players lost in one or two days," Djokovic said.

"All the lower-ranked players have an extra motivation to perform their best; they have nothing to lose.

"I need to be extra-careful and with the roof closed it was a bit different, I needed some time to adjust to the conditions.

Reynolds' exit was one of

the least surprising results in an otherwise shock-filled week, but it did carry historic significance as there will be no American men in the Wimbledon third round for the first time in 101 years.

Djokovic arrived at the All England Club last week desperate to erase the bitter memories of his French Open semi-final defeat against Nadal earlier this month and that setback in Paris will soon be a distant memory if he continues in this form.

The Serb had made success at Roland Garros his top priority this year, but a second Wimbledon crown to follow his triumph in 2011 would be a more than acceptable consolation prize.

With rain plaguing the All England Club for the first time this week, Djokovic would have been pleased to be scheduled under the Centre Court roof, allowing him to progress without having to wait around for the weather to improve.

NFL: Former Pats star denied bail on murder charge

NEW YORK (AFP) - Former New England Patriots star Aaron Hernandez, charged with murder in the shooting death of a man whose bloodied body was found less than a mile from his home, was denied bail on Thursday.

Hemandez was arrested on Wednesday and held on a murder charge in the death of Odin Lloyd on June 17.

He pleaded not guilty, but less than two hours after the 22year-old tight end was arrested and led from his \$1.7 million house in handcuffs, the NFL's Patriots cut ties with him.

On Thursday, Hernandez's defense team, led by Michael Fee, made an appeal for Hernandez to be released on bail.

Defense attorney James Sultan argued that Hernandez's celebrity would not allow him to flee, and said his lack of a criminal record should be considered.

Superior Court Judge Renee Duplas disagreed.

In addition to first-degree murder, Hernandez faces five gun-related charges, including carrying a firearm without a license and possession of a largecapacity firearm.

On Wednesday, prosecutor William McCauley had told a packed hearing that Hernandez and two unidentified associates had murdered Lloyd in an execution-style slaying because he was angry his friend had spoken with people he "had troubles with."

McCauley said Hernandez "orchestrated" Lloyd's execution. Suspicion fell on Hernandez almost immediately after the discovery of the 27-year-old Lloyd's body.

The Boston Globe and ABC News both reported Thursday that Hemandez is also being investigated in connection with the July 2012 drive-by shooting deaths of two men, Damel Abreu and Safino Furtado.

Hemandez, who has played three seasons for the Patriots, received a \$12.5 million bonus when he sealed a contract extension last August which took him up to 2018.









Spain beat Italy on penalties to reach Confed Cup final



FORTALEZA (AFP) - Jesus Navas settled a nail-biting penalty shoot-out 7-6 for Spain as the world and European champions edged Italy on a sultry evening in Fortaleza on Thursday to set up a Confederations Cup final meeting with Brazil.

After the semi-final finished goalless following extra time, Leonardo Bonucci proved the fall guy for the Italians, blazing the 13th kick of the shootout over the bar before Manchester City new boy Navas calmly tucked his penalty home.

Spain will now seek to com-

plete the set of senior international titles, having also won Olympic gold in Barcelona in 1992, but hosts Brazil were spared a 120-minute semi-final and will have had 24 extra hours to recover.

Italy were left to curse their luck after initially shackling Spain in the first half, and coach Cesare Prandelli must now galvanise minds and bodies for Sunday's meeting with Uruguay in the third-place play-off.

He will nonetheless draw solace from the way his side matched Spain, having seen Italy crushed 4-0 when the sides last met in last year's one-sided Euro 2012 final in Kiev.

Chastened by the memory of that game, Prandelli reverted to the formula he had successfully used in the 1-1 draw between the sides earlier in that tournament.

Italy lined up with a threeman defence and no fewer than six midfielders at Estadio Castelao, Claudio Marchisio and Antonio Candreva providing support for lone striker Alberto Gilardino. Spain centre-back Gerard Pique, watched by celebrity girlfriend Shakira, could have settled the tre in the 85th minute, but he blazed over from Navas' low pass and the game went to extra time.

Italy almost broke through in the third minute of the extra period when Emanuele Giaccherini rattled the post with a rising left-foot drive.

Del Bosque elected to swap Torres for holding midfielder Javi Martinez, but it gave Spain momentum, with Pique and Jordi Alba both going close.

Substitute Juan Mata also curled wide, before Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon unconvincingly palmed a shot from Xavi onto the post and Martinez's follow-up effort evaded Mata's toes by inches.

Buffon also had to touch away a low effort from Navas as Spain threatened to snatch victory at the death, but thanks to Bonucci's misfortune, the Spain substitute would still have the final say.



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